

Serial No. 09/872,198

After the title, please insert a new paragraph as follows:

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This Application is a Continuation Application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/381,753 filed April 13, 2000 which is a Continuation-in-Part Application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/595,365 filed February 1, 1996, now issued U.S. Patent No. 5,738,096.

Please delete the Abstract and substitute therefore a new Abstract which is attached on a separate sheet and enclosed herewith.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 25-38 without prejudice. The Applicant reserves its right to file a Divisional Application for Claims 25-31 which have been withdrawn from consideration due to a restriction requirement.

Please add new Claim 39 as follows:

Claim 39. A method for assessing functionality of a valve in a heart, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a wireless transponder for transmitting or receiving an ultrasound wave for determination of position coordinates of the wireless transponder;

implanting the wireless transponder at a point on the valve;

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monitoring movements of the valve and the wireless transponder attached at the point on the valve using a position determining system operated by using ultrasound waves for determining position coordinates of the wireless transponder by transmitting the ultrasound wave to the wireless transponder or receiving the ultrasound wave from the wireless transponder;

determining position coordinates of the wireless transponder using the position determining system; and